

# Creative Writing

Ms. Christy Jones

Cocke County High School 2024-2025

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Plan Period: 2nd Block

Welcome to my Creative Writing class! I am so excited to be teaching this course this semester! I love teaching this subject because it is such a fun class. Creative Writing courses are somewhat informal and more relaxed because there are no strict standards guidelines to follow; however, that does not mean that students will not work hard in this class; it does mean that (hopefully) work will be fun. We will focus primarily on reading, genre studies, story structure, and of course writing and the writing process. This syllabus is designed to be kept in a folder or binder throughout the semester, because many students find the information in it useful. Please review this syllabus with a parent / guardian and then return the Agreement sheet. **The syllabus sign sheet is due by Friday, January 10, 2025** and will count as a daily work grade to be recorded in Aspen.

## Supplies

Students need the following supplies for class:

Notebook / Journal (with @100 pages for daily writing)

Blue or black pens for formal writing

Pencils (optional)

Highlighters (optional)

Notebook for returned assignments (any type with pockets is acceptable)

Notebook paper

## Grades

Assignment grades will be broken down in this manner:

Homework / Daily Work: 10-100 points

Quizzes / Tests: 50-100 points

Written submissions: 50-100 points

Participation: 10-50 points

## Classroom Policies

Some basic policies must be followed in order for the class to run effectively and for learning to occur

- Obey all school rules
- Be prepared and on time for class.
- Respect the rights of others.
- Work cooperatively with teachers, administrators, and fellow students.
- Obtain and complete all work.
- Take care of all school property.

**Consequences:**

First time: *Verbal warning*

Second time: *Parent/Guardian called / Student contract*

Third time: *Detention (with student contract)*

Fourth time: *Referral written and student sent to office*

**Cell Phones:** Per school policy, cell phones are only allowed during class changes and during lunch, but they are to be off and put away during class. Cell phones are to be out of sight throughout the class time; if they are seen, then I will take them up. Cell phones will remain in the student's possession unless they become a problem in class (if I see them out and have to take them up). Repeated violations will result in all students needing to place them in one of the pockets on the wall holder. Cell phones are to remain in the classroom during bathroom breaks.

**Movies**

Occasionally this class will have the opportunity to watch movies or movie clips to enhance comprehension of the writing process or to focus on a literary style or attitude. Please review this list and inform me if you have objections to you / your child watching any of these movies.

- *Stranger Than Fiction* – Columbia (2006) PG-13
- *Finding Forrester* - Columbia (2000) PG-13
- *Big Fish* - Columbia (2003) PG-13
- *Freedom Writers* – Paramount (2007) PG-13
- *Mr. Peabody & Sherman* - (20th Century Fox) PG

**Presentations**

Because of the nature of this class, students will be developing a “portfolio” of writing samples, story ideas, and completed works. Students will be required to present their submissions in front of the class. Thursdays and Fridays will typically be the presentation days, and we will have a more laid-back atmosphere on those days. There is some room for interpretation with the term “presenting” as well. I am open to suggestions about methods of delivery and ways to present when the time comes. Just BE SURE to clear things with me before presentation day.

## Agreement to Rules and Expectations

I have read the syllabus and classroom policies for Ms. C. Jones's Creative Writing class, and I understand what is expected of me as a student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

I have read the syllabus and classroom policies for Ms. C. Jones's Creative Writing class, and I understand what is expected of my son/daughter this school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's or Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's or Guardian's home number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's or Guardian's work number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's or Guardian's email address

I would prefer to be contacted in the following way(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ home phone    \_\_\_\_\_ cell phone    \_\_\_\_\_ work phone    \_\_\_\_\_ email

**\* Additional comments or alternate assignment requests may be written on the back of this form.**